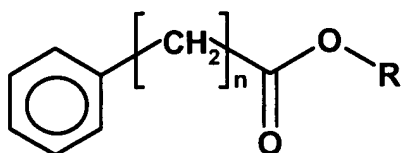


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-13. (Canceled).

14. (Currently Amended) Topical cosmetic composition comprising at least one HDAC inhibitor in combination with a retinoid and a cosmetically or pharmaceutically acceptable excipient or diluent, wherein the HDAC inhibitor is a compound of the formula:



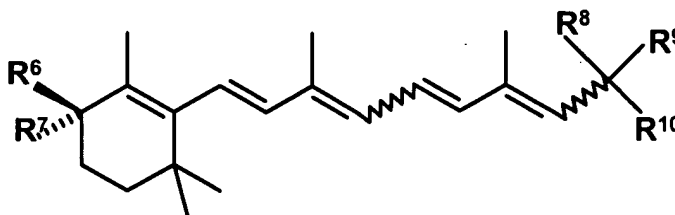
wherein

R is hydrogen or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{30}$ hydrocarbon residue and

n is an integer of 1 to 5.

15. (Currently Amended) Topical cosmetic composition according to claim 14, wherein R is hydrogen, a $\text{C}_4\text{-C}_{20}$ alkyl group or a $\text{C}_4\text{-C}_{20}$ alkenyl group.

16. (Currently Amended) Topical cosmetic composition according to claim 14, wherein the retinoid is a compound of the formula



wherein R⁶ and R⁷ are independently of each other hydrogen or hydroxy or R⁶ and R⁷ together form an oxygen atom

R⁸ and R⁹ are hydrogen or R⁸ and R⁹ together form an oxygen atom

R¹⁰ is hydrogen, hydroxy or a residue OR¹¹

R¹¹ is C₁-C₂₀ alkyl (preferably C₁-C₆ alkyl), C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl (preferably C₂-C₆ alkenyl), C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl or a residue -C(O)-R¹²

R¹² is C₁-C₂₀ alkyl (preferably C₁-C₆ alkyl) or C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl (preferably C₂-C₆ alkenyl).

17. (Currently Amended) Topical cosmetic composition according to claim 14, wherein the composition contains the HDAC inhibitor in a concentration of 0.001 to 50 wt.-%, based on the weight of the composition.

18. (Currently Amended) Topical cosmetic composition according to claim 17, wherein the HDAC inhibitor is present in a concentration of 0.01 to 1 wt.-%, based on the weight of the composition.

19. (Currently Amended) Topical cosmetic composition according to claim 14, wherein the retinoid is present in a concentration of 0.001 to 50 wt.-%, based on the weight of the composition.

20. (Currently Amended) Topical cosmetic composition according to claim 19, wherein the retinoid is present in a concentration of 0.1 to 15 wt.-%, based on the weight of the composition.

21. (Currently Amended) Topical cosmetic composition according to claim 14, wherein the ratio of the HDAC inhibitor to the retinoid is from 30:1 to 1:30, based on the weight.

22.-24. (Canceled).